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BIDEFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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A N N U A L R E P O R T



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SURVEYOR, ENGINEER AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1971

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Medical Officer of Health:
N.Bowring Betts, F.R.C.S.

Surveyor, Engineer and Public Health Inspector,
L.J.Dunn, F.I.P.H.E., M S.E., M.R.S.H., A.I.A.S.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE AREA

Area	55,770
Population (Estimated)	5,030
Number of separately rated hereditaments as at 1st.April, 1972	...	...	...	2,249
Rateable Value (as at 1/4/72)	...	...	...	£96,007
Sum represented by a New Penny Rate as at 31/3/72	...	...	...	£902. 75

The chief occupations of the inhabitants of the District are directly or indirectly associated with agriculture. The district is a very popular holiday centre and many hotels, boarding houses and farms specialise in seasonal catering.

1971

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the Medical Officer of Health
for the Bideford Rural District

Telephone: BRADWORTHY 215

Cleverdon House,
Bradworthy.

September, 1972.

Mr.Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Report dealing with the Public Health and general conditions of the district during the year 1970.

Your obedient Servant,

N.BOWRING BETTS.

Midical Officer of Health.

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VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	..	
Number	..	75
Rate per 1000 population	..	14.9
Illegitimate Live Births (Per cent of total live Births)	..	3.00
Stillbirths.		
Number	..	1
Rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths..	..	13.00
Total live and stillbirths	..	76
Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)	..	1
Infant Mortality Rates.		
Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births	..	13.3
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	..	1.3
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births		-
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1000 total live births)	..	13
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1000 total live births)	..	13
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1000 total live and stillbirths)	..	26
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	..	-
Number of deaths		
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	..	-

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

HOSPITALS.

1. TUBERCULOSIS.

There are no hospitals for the reception of tuberculous patients in this district. Suitable cases are admitted to Hawkmoor Chest Hospital, Bovey Tracey.

2. ISOLATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Any cases of infectious diseases which cannot be isolated or properly cared for at home, are conveyed to the Kingsley Hospital, which comprises 30 beds, 4 cots and 8 observation cubicles.

3. POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION.

Oral Vaccine is now being used for this purpose. Persons up to the age of 40 years are eligible for vaccination.

4. GENERAL.

The Bideford and District Hospital serves the district extremely well for General Medical and Surgical treatment. The hospital contains about 51 beds. Hospital facilities are also available at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple and the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Exeter.

5. MATERNITY CASES.

Maternity cases may be admitted to the North Devon and District Hospital, Barnstaple, which has 48 beds, and also, by arrangement with the Devon County Council, to the Grenville Nursing Home, Bideford.

6. DISTRICT NURSING.

There is a district nurse now resident in Hartland and a district nurse from Bideford is available for part of the district.

7. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological examinations are undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory Service. Chemical analyses are carried out by the Public Analysts, Messrs Tickle & Reynolds, of Queen Street, Exeter.

8. DISINFECTION OF INFECTED BEDDING AND CLOTHING.

By arrangement with the Bideford and District Joint Isolation Hospital Board, any infected bedding and clothing can be disinfected in the steam disinfecting apparatus at the Isolation Hospital.

9. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

There is a St. John Ambulance station at Bideford which serves the rural district. There is also a separate ambulance station at the Isolation Hospital, which is used for the conveyance of patients suffering from any of the notifiable infectious diseases.

10. ANTE-NATAL CLINICS..

Ante-natal clinic are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple.

11. CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

There are child welfare clinics held at Hartland and Bideford.

12. VENEREAL DISEASE.

A clinic for venereal disease is held at the North Devon Infirmary twice weekly.

13. ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

A clinic is held twice a month at Barnstaple.

14. BIRTH CONTROL CLINICS.

A clinic is held once a month at the North Devon Dispensary, Barnstaple.

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
NOTIFICATIONS

Diseases			Total number of of cases notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total deaths.
Scarlet Fever	..	..	1	0	0
Diphtheria	..	..	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	0	0	0
Pneumonia	..	..	0	0	0
Dysentery	..	..	0	0	0
Erysipelas	..	..	0	0	0
Opthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	0	0	0
Anterior Poliomyelitis..	..	..	0	0	0
and Polioencephalitis	..	..	0	0	0
Measles	..	..	20	0	0
Whooping Cough	..	..	0	0	0
Acute Encephalitis	..	..	0	0	0
Lethargica	..	..	0	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	..	..	0	0	0
Inf Hepatitis	..	..	1	0	0

AGE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	<u>Measles</u>		<u>Scarlet Fever</u>		<u>Whooping Cough</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 year	1	0	0	0	0	0
2 years	1	0	0	0	0	0
3 years	1	0	0	0	0	0
4 years	1	0	0	0	0	0
5.9 years	8	8	0	1	0	0
10.14 years	0	0	0	0	0	0
15.24 years	0	0	0	0	0	0
25 and over	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
	12	8	0	1	0	0
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	

DIPHTHERIA IMUNISATION.

This is now combined with whooping cough vaccine and Tetanus Toxoid for children under 5 years of age. Older children are given a combination of Diphtheria Vaccine and Tetanus Toxoid. Measles Vaccine is given to children at the age of 12 months.

TUBERCULOSIS

The number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the register was as follows:-

						31st. Dec. 1971.
(a) Pulmonary	..	..	Males	..	..	6
			Females	..	..	3
(b) Non-Pulmonary	..	..	Males	..	..	1
			Females	..	..	3
						<hr/>
						13
						<hr/>

Total cases on Register, December 31st.,							
"	"	"	"	"	"	1969	12
"	"	"	"	"	"	1968	12
"	"	"	"	"	"	1967	12
"	"	"	"	"	"	1966	11
"	"	"	"	"	"	1965	10
"	"	"	"	"	"	1964	10
"	"	"	"	"	"	1963	9
"	"	"	"	"	"	1962	27
"	"	"	"	"	"	1961	27
"	"	"	"	"	"	1960	28
"	"	"	"	"	"	1959	28
"	"	"	"	"	"	1958	27
"	"	"	"	"	"	1957	27
"	"	"	"	"	"	1956	24
"	"	"	"	"	"	1955	24
"	"	"	"	"	"	1954	23

1. NEW CASES .

During the year 1971 1 case of Tuberculosis was notified.

TUBERCULOSIS

Contd.

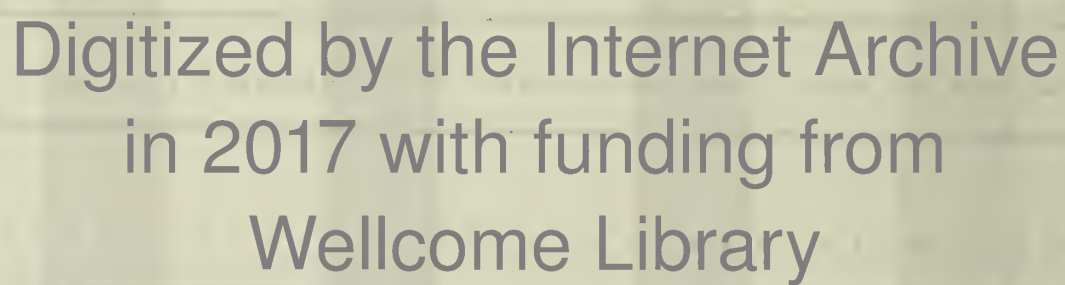
The following are the notifications for the preceeding twelve years:-

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
1970	1	0	0
1969	0	0	0
1968	0	0	0
1967	1	0	1
1966	0	1	1
1965	0	0	0
1964	1	0	1
1963	1	0	1
1962	1	0	1
1961	0	0	0
1960	0	0	0
1959	1	0	1
1958	1	1	2

MORTALITY FROM TUBERCULOSIS

Total Deaths, 1970 - 0

[illegible]



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A N N U A L R E P O R T

SURVEYOR, ENGINEER AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE BIDEFORD RURAL DISTRICT

Grenville House,
The Quay,
Bideford.

October, 1972.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BIDEFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr.Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1971, dealing with the various matters which come within the purview of this Department.

I am, Mr.Chairman and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

L.J.DUNN.

Surveyor.

HOUSING

Existing Council Houses.

The following table enumerates the number of houses owned by the Council in the various Parishes and whether pre-war, war-time or post-war houses and the type of same.

<u>Pre-war Houses</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Modern Amenities provided</u>	<u>No. of Houses</u>
Abbotsham, Woodcote	Three-bedroomed	August, 1970	2
Alwington, Fairy Cross	-do-	February, 1967	2
Alwington, Woodtown	-do-	February, 1963	2
Buckland Brewer, Tower Hill	-do-	March, 1966	1
Clovelly, Sydenham	-do-	October, 1968	1
Hartland, Rosedown	-do-	February, 1968	2
Hartland, Baxworthy	-do-	Main water supply taken to houses recently. Further improvements in hand.	2
Littleham, Boundstone	-do-	March 1964	2
Monkleigh, Council Cottages	-do-	February, 1965	2
Parkham, Halsbury	-do-	May 1960	2
Parkham, Woodpark	-do-	May 1972	2
Woolsery, Cranford	-do-	May 1966	2

War-time Houses

In 1944 the Council built four houses:-

	<u>Three-bedroomed</u>	<u>Two-bedroomed</u>	<u>No. of Houses</u>
Natcott, Hartland	2		2
Crosspark, Woolsery	2		2
			<u>4</u>

<u>Post-war dwellings</u>	<u>Three-bedroomed</u>	<u>Two-bedroomed</u>	<u>No. of Houses</u>
Abbotsham	6		6
Alwington	6		6
Buckland Brewer	12	6	18
Bulkworthy	2		2
Clovelly	8		8
East Putford	2		2
Hartland	26	13	39
Littleham	4		4
Monkleigh	16	6	22
Newton St. Petrock	2	2	4
Parkham	6		6
Welcombe	2		2
Woolsery	4	4	8
			<u>127</u>

Improvement of Pre-War Council Houses.

20 pre-war Council Houses have been improved with the aid of a grant, being the provision of standard amenities.

Plans are in hand to improve the remaining pre-war Council Houses which lack these amenities. (for details see above).

New Council Houses.

The housing programme for the year under review was for the erection of 10 - 2 bedroomed old peoples bungalows to complete the Well Spring Close Estate.

A tender for same was accepted and the work on the erection of same is well in hand at the time of writing the Report.

Future Council House Programme.

The Council own land suitable for new Council Houses at Abbotsham, Buckland Brewer, Horns Cross, Monkleigh and Woolsery and it is thought that this is adequate to serve the future needs of the district, bearing in mind the list of applicants for such dwellings.

Experience has proved that by building two-bedroomed bungalows not only does this provide more suitable accommodation for newly married couples and old persons but at the same time Tenants have vacated three-bedroomed, five person Council Houses which they have been subsequently let to larger families.

Private dwellings.

34 private dwellinghouses were erected in various parts of the district during the year and this number is considerably in excess of previous years.

HOUSING GRANTS.

Standard Grants.

21 applications for a Standard Grant were approved during the year.

During the year £2,018 was paid out in respect of 12 grants paid - this is a reduction from that paid out during the previous year.

Discretionary Grants.

There were 10 applications for Discretionary Grants during the year, 9 being improvements to properties and the remainder a conversion of outbuilding to dwelling and it was agreed to pay the sum of £9,716 in respect of same.

Two of the Discretionary Grants referred to above were previously approved under earlier legislation but the work was not started in respect of same and an application was made in each case for increase in the amount of grant which was approved.

Two Discretionary Grants were paid out in the year at a cost of £1,016.

HOUSING ACT, 1957.

No statutory notices were served under this Act during the period under review.

There are no Common Lodging Houses or Houses in Multiple Occupation in the district.

WATER SUPPLIES

Statutory Authority.

The North Devon Water Board are the Authority for the provision of water throughout the district and the mains are available in all Parishes. All the Villages and Hamlets in the district have a supply together with large areas of the district outside the Villages and Hamlets.

Main Extensions.

One short extension of water main was laid during the year at Hartland being a 'link' main.

Sources of Supply.

The main sources of supply of water are from Exmoor and Dartmoor but some smaller sources of supply are available to the Board in North Devon which were previously individual reservoirs for the various local Authorities which have since been taken over by the Board. Such a supply is that at Melbury which was the source of supply for the Urban District of Northam.

Adequacy of Supplies.

The Water Board have had to impose certain restrictions on the use of water in the various parts of their area during the year under review, including this Rural District but restriction in supply relates only to the use of hose pipes. There has been adequate water for domestic use but the Board have on a number of occasions had to request consumers to use water with care owing to the lack of storage capacity in the various reservoirs.

During the year under review the Water Board received approval to construct a new reservoir at Meldon on Dartmoor and it is considered that on completion this large impounding reservoir will contain adequate supplies for the present and immediate water consumption in the majority of their area. Certain smaller impounding reservoirs are under consideration for construction to supplement supplies in parts of the Water Board area and, no doubt, they are bearing in mind the increasing consumption of water generally.

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>No. of domestic properties supplies.</u>	<u>Estimated No. of persons supplied</u>
ABBOTSHAM	133	382
ALWINGTON	89	254
BUCKLAND BREWER	106	300
BULKWORTHY	15	43
CLOVELLY	172	490
EAST PUTFORD	18	52
HARTLAND	363	1072
LANDCROSS	27	77
LITTLEHAM	77	215
MONKLEIGH	126	354
NEWTON ST. PETROCK	55	158
PARKHAM	173	497
WELCOMBE	52	121
WOOLSERY	175	499

Private supplies.

Approximately 420 properties in the sparsely populated part of the district rely on private water supplies in the form of boreholes or wells and whilst a number of these are satisfactory, shallow wells, of which there are a number, are often of poor quality and the supply of water often fails during a period of dry weather but the situation now is extremely satisfactory compared to say 20 years ago when the majority of the district relied on private water supplies.

During the year 20 samples were taken from private water supplies, seven of which were found to be unsatisfactory.

In the case of unsatisfactory supplies advice is given as to the best method to exclude pollution as far as possible if no alternative water supply is available.

Future main extensions.

Despite the fact that in economic terms future main extensions cannot be expected to pay off their capital cost, a number of arrangements are being formulated by the North Devon Water Board whereby with the aid of grants from various Authorities, including a guarantee from the District Council concerned, there is a distinct possibility that some of the district may still be provided with mains in the future.

There are a number of areas in the Rural District where mains are badly needed to afford an adequate water supply and it is hoped that some such arrangement may become possible for those areas.

SEWERAGE

Existing position.

The majority of the Villages and Hamlets in the district have been provided with new sewers and sewage disposal works as water supplies were taken through the district by the North Devon Water Board, as under:-

Abbotsham	-	completed in 1968
Buckland Brewer	-	completed in 1952
Higher Clovelly	-	completed in 1959
Lower Clovelly	-	New tidal tank provided in 1950.
Ford/Fairy Cross	-	completed in 1965
Hartland	-	completed in 1961
Horns Cross	-	completed in 1948
Littleham	-	completed in 1963
Monkleigh	-	completed in 1957
Parkham	-	completed in 1954
Saltrens	-	completed in 1955
Stoke	-	completed in 1960
Woodtown	-	completed in 1965
Woolsery	-	completed in 1971

Future proposals.

When the above-mentioned Villages were provided with sewers and sewage disposal works, relatively little was allowed for future development in the Villages and Hamlets but since that time planning policy has been radically altered and this will concentrate residential development in Villages and Hamlets with the greater proportion of the development taking place in Key Settlements, of which there are three in the district.

Proposals in hand.

Littleham and Parkham sewage disposal works extensions.

During the year under review plans were drawn up to extend the disposal works serving these Villages without which no further development could be permitted and these extensions have recently been completed allowing for the future development of 30 and 25 properties in the respective Villages.

Buckland Brewer.

The position has been reached where no further development can take place in this Key Settlement until such time as the sewage disposal works are extended and this is very much in mind and the work will be put in hand when the Outline Development Plan for this Key Settlement has been agreed with the County Council.

Bucks Cross and Bucks Mills.

A sea outfall sewer with a tidal tank is proposed to deal with the drainage from these two Hamlets and a chalet camp nearby but the proposal is considered by some members of the public to be an unsatisfactory means of disposal of sewage and the Council has been subjected to criticism of these proposals.

Various hydrological tests have and are being undertaken by experts on behalf of the Council and all stages of the proposals are being discussed with the Department of the Environment who have expressed the opinion that they see no reason why the scheme for a sea outfall sewer, as drawn up, should not be proceeded with.

An alternative which has been put forward involves pumping all sewage from these Hamlets and camp back to an inland works with the effluent taken to a tributary of the River Torridge which is a perfectly satisfactory proposal but it involves the construction of three pumping stations and raising sewage nearly 700' with the consequent perpetual costs of maintenance of the pumping stations and power consumed by the motors which is an extremely high figure.

It is considered that a land base scheme could be accepted only if the present proposals for a sea outfall sewer could be shown to be unacceptable in that it was a danger to public health or it was objectionable from an aesthetic point of view and further tests being carried out will, it is thought, confirm the opinion expressed for some time that neither of these objections will be present in the proposals.

Clovelly.

The Council provisionally agreed some time ago to lay a new sewer in Lower Clovelly and provide a new sea outfall disposal works which is considered necessary and was to have been put in hand to accommodate further development.

Opposition was being expressed to these proposals for the extension of a sea outfall sewer and it seems most unlikely that an early decision on this matter would have been reached with the result that the very urgent development referred to above, which has already been delayed for some years on the grounds of inadequate drainage facilities being available to serve same, would be further delayed, but this development being considered as of high priority to deal with the many thousands of visitors to Clovelly could not be further delayed.

It has been agreed, therefore, to extend the Higher Clovelly Sewage Disposal works to make same capable of taking the flow from the proposed development referred to above, together with future development which it is anticipated will take place in Higher Clovelly over the next 30 years.

Horns Cross.

Plans have been drawn up to provide an entirely new sewage disposal works to serve this Hamlet where the existing works provided in 1948 have proved unsatisfactory and the new works will accommodate future development in the Hamlet.

Work in connection with this contract will be commenced shortly.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection.

Refuse is collected from all properties in the district since the service has been operated directly by the Council as opposed to the collection by contract which operated until recently, which served certain properties only.

The service has considerably improved in that there is a fortnightly collection throughout the year in the majority of the Rural District as opposed to a monthly collection and the weekly collection at Hartland Town and twice weekly collection at Lower Clovelly has been continued.

The new service has been in operation sufficiently long to establish that the frequency of collection in the main Villages and Hamlets in the District could be increased to a weekly collection if the Council so wished without very great additional expense.

Refuse Disposal.

Refuse is disposed by tipping on three dumps in various parts of the district situated in the open countryside and it is anticipated that the life of two of the dumps is at least five years but the remaining dump at Highworthy, Clovelly has a much shorter life.

The tips are controlled as far as possible but being open to the public for tipping privately as and when required does lead to difficulties. Nevertheless, it is preferable that this facility should remain rather than refuse be dumped elsewhere in the countryside.

Litter bins.

An increased number of litter bins has been provided for the collection of refuse on the main roads throughout the district and these are emptied as and when required by the Council's refuse lorry.

PUBLIC SWIMMING AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Natural Amenities.

The north and west boundaries of the district are bounded by the coastline along which are a number of small beaches, increasingly used for recreation, including swimming. Unfortunately, the majority of the coastline is such that it is not suitable for public bathing but affords recreational pursuits which are likely to be increasingly followed in future when the Long Distance Coastal Footpath runs throughout the district.

Swimming Pools.

Three swimming pools are available in the district and they are open to the public on a restricted basis since they form part of facilities provided at two hotels and a chalet site.

All pools have facilities for treatment of water for purification and they have been operated satisfactorily.

A number of pools have been provided at Schools in the district used to teach young children to swim and these are adequately supervised and provision made for maintaining same in satisfactory condition.

CARAVAN AND CAMPING

Camping Sites.

The district remains popular for caravan and camping holidays and 5 licensed sites exist to accommodate these holidaymakers.

All the sites are provided with essential amenities of adequate water supply, sanitary accommodation and means for the collection and disposal of refuse and some sites have ablution facilities.

11 farms in the district are able to provide similar facilities to Members of the Caravan and Camping Clubs and these too are situated in various parts of the district.

The sites are visited frequently during the summer and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Chalet Sites.

Two chalet holiday sites exist in the district, one has approximately 100 units and the other 12.

The chalets are of two bedroomed type each with their own bathroom and are very satisfactory units of holiday accommodation.

The occupation of the chalets is limited to a period from March to October in each year.

PLANS AND PLANNING CONTROL

Building Regulations.

The number of plans submitted for approval under the Building Regulations was considerably more than in the previous year, being:-

No approved	-	152
No refused	-	NIL

Town and Country Planning Acts

There was again an increase in the number of plans submitted for consideration under the Planning Acts, as under:-

No approved	-	164
No refused	-	49
No withdrawn	-	1

Control of development.

A large portion of the Rural District is scheduled as of Outstanding Natural Beauty and/or Coastal Preservation Area and it is anticipated that part of the coastline will be designated as heritage coast and other parts of the Rural District are scheduled as of Great Landscape Value.

Development in a large portion of the district is therefore strictly controlled and in other portions of the Rural District outside these designated areas, development necessary for agricultural needs only is generally permitted with the result that there is increasing pressure for development in the various Villages and Hamlets which in turn has caused difficulties with drainage schemes, provided relatively recently, proving inadequate as referred to earlier in the report.

PETROLEUM

28 premises in the district are licenced for the storage and sale of petroleum spirit.

Periodic inspections are made for the installations and everything was found to be generally satisfactory.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND PREMISES ACT

Number of registered premises - Offices 2, Retail Shops 9, Catering Establishments 9.

20 inspections were carried out on these various premises and they were found to comply with the requirements of the act.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the
Factories Act, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	No. of		
		Inspect- ions. (4)	Written Notices. (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	2	3	NIL	NIL
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	10	17	NIL	NIL
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities (excluding out-workers' premises).	2	3	NIL	NIL
Total	14	23	NIL	NIL

1. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND - NIL.

OUTWORK
(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature	Section 133		Section 134		
Work	No. of out- workers in August list Required by Section 133 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (1)(c)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in un- wholesome premises.	Notices... Prosecu- tions.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6) (7)
Wearing) Making Apparel) etc.	10				
) cleaning					
) and					
) washing.					
) Total	10				

FOOD AND DRUGS

A 'NIL' return in respect of food poisoning was sent to the Ministry of Health for the year under review.

FOOD PREMISES.

Food premises, subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 grouped in categories are detailed hereunder

	Total No.	Sect.16 W.H.Basins	Sect.19 (Sink) applic- able.	sinks provided.
(a) Catering.				
i. Hotels.	7	7	7	7
ii. Cafes and Restaurants	8	8	8	8
iii. Licensed premises not included in i and ii.	15	15	15	15
(b) Grocers.	15	15	15	15
(c) Butchers.	4	4	4	4
(d) Bakers.	1	1	1	1
(e) Sweet Confectionery.	12	12	11	11
(f) Others.				
i. Icecream Manufacturers.	1	1	1	1
ii. Rabbit Killing and Dressing.	1	1	1	1

Inspections are made periodically of these premises, and, in general, the standard of Food Hygiene is satisfactory. I has not been found necessary to take formal action in respect of offences under the Regulations.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are no slaughterhouses in the district, all meat being obtained from centralised slaughterhouses in other districts.

FOOD - GENERAL.

Food processing.

There is one rabbit processing establishment in the district and the meat is supplied to large chain store groups.

The rabbits are bred throughout the south-west and the process is carried out by part-time labour.

No problems with regard to this establishment has arisen during the year under review.

Condemned foods.

There is a 'NIL' return in respect of condemned foods from the various shops and stores in the district.

Sampling.

Food sampling in the district is undertaken as necessary by the County Council who are the Food and Drugs Authority and this is undertaken in consultation with the Department as and when required.

